

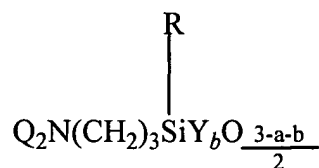
AMENDMENT TO SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph beginning on page 5, line 22, as follows:

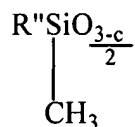
“Suitable polydialkylsiloxanes for use in forming the coating mixture herein include polydimethylsiloxanes, polydiethylsiloxanes, polydipropylsiloxanes, polydibutylsiloxanes and the like with polydimethylsiloxanes being preferred. Particularly preferred polydimethylsiloxanes are polydimethylsiloxanes having a molecular weight sufficient to provide a viscosity of the coating mixture of at least about 10,000 cp and preferably of at least about 30,000 cp. Such polydimethylsiloxanes for use herein are the products sold by Dow Corning under the name "~~Syl-Off~~ SYL-OFF® DC 23", which is suitable as a high density condensable polydimethylsiloxane, and NuSil Technology under the name "MED1-4162" (30,000 cp).”

Please amend paragraph beginning on page 6, line 6, as follows:

“Suitable siliconization materials for addition with the foregoing polydialkylsiloxanes to form the coating mixtures of this disclosure include siliconization materials containing an aminoalkyl siloxane and at least one other copolymerizable siloxane, e.g., an alkylpolysiloxane or a cyclosiloxane; a silicone oil, e.g., one sold by Dow Corning Corporation under the name Dow 360 ~~Medical Fluid~~ MEDICAL FLUID (350 to 12,500 centistokes), and the like with the siliconization material containing an aminoalkyl siloxane and at least one other copolymerizable siloxane being preferred. Generally, the preferred siliconization material includes (a) from about 5 to about 70 weight percent of an aminoalkyl siloxane of the general formula



wherein R is a lower alkyl radical containing no more than about 6 carbon atoms; Y is selected from the group consisting of -OH and -OR' radicals in which R' is an alkyl radical of no more than about 3 carbon atoms; Q is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -CH₃ and -CH₂CH₂NH₂; a has a value of 0 or 1, b has a value of 0 or 1 and the sum of a+b has a value of 0, 1 or 2; and (b) from about 30 to about 95 weight percent of a methyl substituted siloxane of the general formula



wherein R'' is selected from the group consisting of -OH and -CH₃ radicals and c has a value of 1 or 2. The two components of this siliconization material copolymerize, forming a lubricating coating on the surface of the needle.”

Please amend paragraph beginning on page 7, line 18, as follows:

“In one embodiment of the present disclosure, the coating mixture can be formed by adding a first solution of at least one of the foregoing polydialkylsiloxanes in a solvent with a second solution of at least one of the foregoing siliconization materials in a solvent. Under preferred conditions, the first solution can be prepared by adding ~~Sy1-Off~~ SYL-OFF DC 23, MED1-4162 or both in a solvent such as, for example, a hydrocarbon solvent having from about 5 to about 10 carbon atoms, e.g., pentane, hexane, heptane, octane, etc., xylene, chlorinated solvents, THF, dioxanone and the like and mixtures

thereof with hexane being preferred. The first solution is typically formed from ~~Syl-Off~~ SYL-OFF DC 23 or MED1-4162 with hexane with ~~Syl-Off~~ SYL-OFF DC 23 or MED1-4162 being present in the concentration range of from about 10 g/l to about 70 g/l and preferably from about 35 g/l to about 45 g/l.”

Please amend paragraph beginning on page 11, line 2 as follows:

“The following example compares the effects of varying the surface preparation, the ratio of ~~Syl-Off~~ SYL-OFF DC 23 and MDX fluid components, the method of coating, the exposure to relative humidity, and the curing time and temperature for CV-11 needles. Specifically, the variable factors were as follows:

- A. Surface preparation -- passivation or no passivation (Standard);
- B. Mix ratio of DC 23 to MDX4-4159 -- 6:1 or 12:1;
- C. Method of coating -- spraying or dipping;
- D. Relative Humidity (57%) Exposure -- 2 hours at 70°C or 3 hours at 25°C;
- E. Curing -- 4 hours at 140°C or 20 hours at 120°C.”

Please amend paragraph beginning on page 13, line 16, as follows:

“This Example compared the lubricity of needles coated with 25 mL(40 g/L) Dow ~~Syl-Off~~ SYL-OFF DC 23 with Hexane and 20 mL(27 g/L) NuSil MED-4159 with Hexane (85%) and IPA (15%) in a 2:1 ratio, with needles coated with 25 ml (40 g/L) NuSil MED 4162 with Hexane and 20 ml (27 g/L) MDX4-4159 with Hexane (85%) and IPA (15%).”